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other peace associations in Europe, did commendable service in trying to prevent war between this country and Spain.

. . . Consul-General Lee left Havana on the 9th of April and arrived in Washington on the 12th, and appeared before the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs the same day in reference to the destruction of the Maine, which he considered due to Spanish agencies.

. . . The Hon. William Everett of Mass., in a recent address, declared war to be "the silliest and wickedest thing man ever invented."

. . . Fourteen members of the House of Representatives and two Senators opposed and voted against the war with Mexico in 1846. Congress did worse this time.

### Correspondence

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, MASS., April 12, 1898.

My dear Mr. Trueblood: I thank you very much for sending so promptly the pamphlets and for your friendly letter. I am very glad to have the *ADVOCATE*, which I shall find a great source of strength. In a most delightful conversation with Mr. Howard Brown of King's Chapel last year, he said that he expected the next fifty years to bring about a spiritual development as great as the past fifty years had given us in a material way. I had hoped such a thing, but had not dared to express such a hope.

I cannot believe that we are to be overwhelmed by our sudden acquisition of marvellous material power as the Roman empire was crushed by its own vast machinery. Many evolutionists of high standing regard our times as a period of degeneration, and believe that the human organism will not be able to keep up with material progress, and must therefore suffer a setback of several hundred years (or what would be equivalent to the middle ages—the world lives faster now). It is a grave question and the growth of the military spirit and the mighty monopolies give appalling evidence in support of the dark side.

But the cessation of persecution and a host of kindred utterly new elements have given an unknown freedom to modern thought; and in this lie unknown possibilities. It is only recently that the spiritual centre of gravity has shifted. Evolution has substituted for the Garden of Eden the millennium of Christ. Perfection is in the future, not in the past. Men begin to see that money must be spent for education and not for monuments. Clara Barton's words, "Congress voted fifty millions for defence. Now I don't think it would be a bad thing to vote one million . . . for relief," can be accepted gratefully by an increasing number.

Indeed the very fact of our appalling power is to me a proof of our spiritual development. The gentle inherit the earth because the fierce destroy each other and because only the gentle can hear the whispers of God through the laws of nature.

In the very nature of things only the gentle can have mighty power; only the virtuous and noble can take part in the eternal processes of God.

When we know these things as a nation and the impregnable strength of virtue and justice are understood,

war will be classed with Spanish Inquisitions and canon with the instruments of the torture chamber.

How long? I think of every piston of locomotive and steamship, every flash of chained lightning, every helpful thought and act as hurrying on the time.

Very sincerely yours,

C. S. M.

NEW YORK, April 1, 1898.

The American Peace Society, Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen: Herewith I send you two dollars, which I understand are your annual dues for membership, but if I am mistaken kindly inform me and I shall send you any needed additional amount.

May I request you, in return, to enroll me in your list of members as one who detests war and who can be relied on to do all in his power to promote peace and brotherly feeling among men.

To be counted among those who are not afraid and ashamed to confess that they believe in the principles of your society, I shall esteem as a great honor.

Yours respectfully,

J. N. J.

### Nothing to Excuse Our Intervention.

BY MOORFIELD STOREY, ESQ.

President's Speech at the Meeting of the Massachusetts Reform Club, April 8.

*Gentlemen of the Reform Club:*

This Club never met under circumstances more calculated to create the gravest anxiety in every patriotic man than to-night, and by patriotic man I do not mean him who measures his country's greatness by the extent of her territory, the size of her armies, the strength of her fleets, or even by the insolence with which she tramples upon her weaker neighbors, but him who knows that the true greatness of a nation, as of a man, depends upon its character, its sense of justice, its self-restraint, its magnanimity, in a word upon its possession of those qualities which distinguish George Washington from the prize-fighter, — the highest type of man from the highest type of beast. It is impossible to realize that at the end of nineteen Christian centuries our country, of whose civilization we have been wont to boast, has forsaken the policy of peace with all mankind which was adopted at the formation of the government and under which it has grown great, has turned its back upon its real leaders, upon the President so lately chosen by a great majority of the people, upon the Speaker of the House, upon the experienced veterans of the Senate, upon statesmen like George F. Edmunds and Edward G. Phelps, and has surrendered its conscience and its heart to irresponsible mercenaries like Hearst of the *New York Journal*, like the conductors of the *World*, and men like these who for one motive or another are madly shrieking for war.

War is the worst of human calamities. It rarely reaches the guilty, whose acts have brought it on. It never fails to destroy the innocent and to overwhelm with undeserved misfortune men, women and children in no way responsible for the evils which it is ostensibly waged to cure. In the language of our own great general, "War is hell." As Sidney Smith said, "In war God is forgotten." Why is it that of a sudden we stand face to face with so fright-